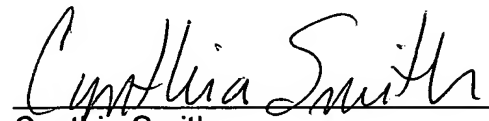


REMARKS

In reply to the Office Action of June 20, 2005, independent claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependant claims 3, 4 and 5, essentially "rewriting claim 5 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." The dependency of claim 6 and claim 7 was adjusted to depend from rewritten independent claim 1. Similarly, independent claim 8 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependant claims 9, 10, 11 and 12, effectively "rewriting claim 12 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." The dependency of claim 13 and claim 14 was adjusted to depend from rewritten independent claim 8. Independent claim 15 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependant claim 17, effectively "rewriting claim 17 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." The dependency of claim 18 and claim 19 was adjusted to depend from rewritten independent claim 15.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Cynthia Smith
Registration Number 53,608

21 East Huron
Ste. #1905
Chicago, Illinois 60611
(773) 562-5438
Dated: September 19, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This marked-up listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. A clean listing of claims follows the marked-up listing of claims:

Marked-up Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A reclining seat back assembly for a toilet including a tank and toilet base having a bowl formed therein, the seat back assembly comprising:

a seat back frame pivotally mounted to a first upper surface portion of the toilet base, the seat back frame including a front surface, a first side edge, a second side edge and a bottom edge proximate to the first upper surface portion of the toilet base, and including a first pin mounted to the first side edge of the seat back frame, the first pin configured to project into the first aperture, and a second pin mounted to the second side edge of the seat back frame, the second pin configured to project into the second aperture, the second pin projecting in a horizontal direction opposite to the first pin to provide a fixed horizontal pivot axis;

a cushion mounted to the front surface;

at least one button disposed on a side surface of the toilet base, the at least one button accessible by a user of the toilet; and

a seat back operating assembly coupled to the seat back frame and the at least one button, the seat back operating assembly adapted to allow the user to selectively adjust an upright position of the seat back frame in response to actuation of the at least one button; the seat back operating assembly including a side extension bracket attached to a bottom portion of the first side edge of the seat back frame, the side extension bracket extending to the toilet base; and including a worm gear block

attached to the side extension bracket, the worm gear block having a threaded hole disposed therein; , a motor assembly electrically coupled to at least one button; , and a worm gear drive shaft rotatably coupled to the motor assembly and threadedly coupled to the worm gear block, the worm gear drive shaft sized for receipt by the threaded hole;
a first mounted bracket having a first aperture disposed therein, the first mounted bracket fixedly attached to a second upper surface portion of the toilet base, the first mounted bracket proximate to the first side edge of the seat back frame; and
a second mounted bracket having a second aperture disposed therein, the second mounted bracket fixedly attached to a third upper surface portion of the toilet base, the second mounted bracket proximate to the second side edge of the seat back frame.

2. (Original) The seat back assembly of claim 1, wherein the seat back operating assembly is concealed within the toilet base.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently amended) The seat back assembly of claim 5 ~~1~~, wherein the motor assembly further comprises a controller, the controller including a microprocessor and a memory coupled to the microprocessor.

7. (Currently amended) The seat back assembly of claim 5 1, wherein a bottom portion of the side extension bracket is forced in a first substantially lateral direction in response to a first direction of rotation of the worm gear shaft, and wherein the bottom portion of the side extension bracket is forced in a substantially lateral second direction in response to a second direction of rotation of the worm gear shaft, the substantially lateral second direction opposite to the substantially lateral first direction, the second direction of rotation opposite to the first direction of rotation.

8. (Currently amended) A luxury toilet comprising:

a tank including a tank valve assembly disposed therein, the tank including a front side and a back side;

toilet bas operatively coupled to the tank, the toilet base having a bowl formed therein for receiving water from the tank via the tank valve assembly; and

a reclining seat back assembly coupled to the toilet base, the reclining seat back assembly including:

a reclining seat back pivotally coupled to a first upper surface portion of the toilet base, the reclining seat back including a first side edge, a second side edge, a bottom edge proximate to the first upper surface portion of the toilet base, and a first pin and a second pin, the first upper surface portion of the toilet base at a predetermined distance from the front side of the tank to allow reclining adjustment of the reclining seat back, the first pin mounted to the first side edge of the seat back and configured to project into the first aperture, the second pin mounted to the second side edge of the seat back and configured to project into

the second aperture, the second pin projecting in horizontal direction opposite to the second pin to provide a fixed horizontal pivot axis,

at least one button disposed on a side surface of the toilet base, the at least one button accessible by a user of the luxury toilet, and

a seat back operating assembly coupled to the seat back and the at least one button, the seat back operating assembly adapted to allow the user to selectively adjust an upright reclining position of the seat back in response to actuation of the at least one button, the seat back operating assembly concealed within the toilet base, the seat back operating assembly including a side extension bracket attached to a bottom portion of the first side edge of the seat back and extending into the toilet base, a worm gear block attached to the side extension bracket and having a threaded hole disposed therein, a motor assembly electrically coupled to the at least one button, and a worm gear drive shaft rotateably coupled to the motor assembly and threadedly coupled to the worm gear block, the worm gear drive shaft sized for receipt by the threaded hole;

a first mounted bracket having a first aperture disposed therein, the first mounted bracket fixedly attached to a second upper surface portion of the toilet base, the first mounted bracket proximate to the first side edge of the seat back; and

a second mounted bracket having a second aperture disposed therein, the second mounted bracket fixedly attached to a third upper surface portion of the toilet base, the second mounted bracket proximate to the second side edge of the seat back.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) The luxury toilet of claim ~~42~~8, wherein the motor assembly further comprises a controller, the controller including a microprocessor and a memory coupled to the microprocessor.

14. (Currently amended) The luxury toilet of claim ~~42~~8, wherein a bottom portion of the side extension bracket is forced in a first substantially lateral direction in response to a first direction of rotation of the worm gear shaft, and wherein the bottom portion of the side extension bracket is forced in a substantially lateral second direction in response to a second direction of rotation of the worm gear shaft, the substantially lateral second direction opposite to the substantially lateral first direction, the second direction of rotation opposite to the first direction of rotation.

15. (Currently amended) A reclining seatback assembly for a toilet, the toilet including a tank and toilet base having a bowl formed therein, the seat back assembly comprising:

a seat back pivotally mounted to a first upper surface portion of the toilet base, the seat back including a side edge, a second side edge and a bottom edge proximate to the first upper surface portion of the toilet base;

at least one button disposed on a side surface of the toilet base, the at least one button accessible by a user of the toilet; and

a seat back operating assembly coupled to the seat back and the at least one button, the seat back operating assembly adapted to allow the user to selectively adjust an upright position of the seat back in response to the actuation of the at least one button; the seat back operating assembly including:

a first side extension bracket attached to a bottom portion of the first side edge of the seat back, the first side extension bracket extending the toilet base,

a second side extension bracket attached to a bottom portion of the second side edge of the seat back, the second side extension bracket substantially parallel to the first side extension bracket,

a worm gear block attached to the first side extension bracket, the worm gear block having a threaded hole disposed therein,

a motor assembly electrically coupled to the at least one button, and

a worm gear drive shaft rotateably coupled to the motor assembly and threadedly coupled to the worm gear block, the worm gear drive shaft sized for receipt by the threaded hole.

16. (Original) The seat back assembly of claim 15, wherein the seat back operating assembly is concealed within the toilet base.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) The seat back assembly of claim 17-15, wherein the motor assembly further comprises a controller, the controller including a microprocessor and a memory coupled to the microprocessor.

19. (Currently amended) The seat back assembly of claim 17 15, wherein the toilet further includes:

a first mounted bracket having a first aperture disposed therein, the first mounted bracket fixedly attached to a second upper surface portion of the toilet base, the first mounted bracket proximate to the first side edge of the seat back; and

a second mounted bracket having a second aperture disposed therein, the second mounted bracket fixedly attached to a third upper surface portion of the toilet base, the second mounted bracket proximate to the second side edge of the seat back.

20. (Original) The seat back assembly of claim 19, wherein the seat back further comprises:

a first pin mounted to the first side extension bracket, the first pin configured to project into the first aperture; and

a second pin mounted to the second side of the extension bracket, the second pin configured to project into the second aperture, the second pin projecting in a horizontal direction opposite to the second pin to provide a fixed horizontal pivot axis.